

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 10/067,294
Docket No: Q68446

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the original title with the following:

HEAT DEVELOPING APPARATUS HAVING ROTATING BODY PAIRS THAT
CHANGE THE CONVEYING DIRECTION OF A HEAT DEVELOPING SHEET

Please amend the first full paragraph of page 3 as follows:

1) One of them is that, when the temperature of each of the rotating bodybodies is individually set so that a plurality of rotating body pairs are nipping the sheet and it can be heated and conveyed in stages, the generation of the wrinklewrinkles in the sheet can be suppressed. ~~According to this, because~~Because the plurality of rotating bodybodies nip the sheet, principally, the buckling deformation due to the heat expansion and contraction of the sheet occurs, and sometimes the wrinkleis wrinkles are generated. These wrinkles deteriorate, ~~thereby~~, the processing quality ~~is deteriorated~~. Accordingly, in order to increase the quality, further addition of ~~a~~plural stages of heat rotating body pairs is necessary, which results in the increase of the number of mechanical parts and the increase of the apparatus size.

Please amend the first full paragraph of page 6 as follows:

The fourth aspect of the invention is, in the heat developing apparatus of any one aspect of the first aspect to the third aspect, characterized in that each of the plurality of rotating body pairs are structured by ~~2~~two rollers, and at least one roller is a heating roller provided with the heating means, and the arrangement, interval and temperature of the heating roller is set so that it has the temperature difference by which the heat developing processing quality deterioration due to the heat deformation of the heat developing sheet is not generated.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 10/067,294
Docket No: Q68446

Please amend paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 as follows:

In ~~the 4~~the four rotating body pairs which form the curved surface, the conveyance rollers 2a through 2d are arranged inside and the heating rollers 1a through 1d are arranged outside, and each of heating rollers 1a –through 1d is set so that the heating temperature is gradually increased in this order. At that, ~~a temperature of~~ the temperature difference between the individual heating rollers 1a through 1d is changed gradually ~~level which is not quickly~~ level which is not quickly changed in order to suppress so that the processing quality deterioration due to the wrinkle generation ~~of~~ in the sheet A ~~is not accompanied,~~ is respectively set. Corresponding to the temperature change~~it~~, the arrangement and interval of ~~them~~the heating rollers 1a through 1d are respectively set.

Please amend the first full paragraph of page 12 as follows:

The heating rollers 1a through 1d respectively have, although not shown, a thick wall metallic pipe, and a heat source section arranged at the axis center of the metallic pipe, and a plurality of members whose heat conductivity is not smaller than the metallic pipe, are buried at an equal interval in the peripheral direction of the thick wall portion of the metallic pipe.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 14 and 15 as follows:

~~In 4~~In four rotating body pairs, the conveying rollers 2a–through 2d are respectively arranged inside, and heating rollers 1a through 1d are arranged outside, and the heating temperature of each of heating rollers 1a through 1d is set higher in this order, ~~and a~~. A ~~temperature of~~ temperature difference level by ~~between~~ each of the heating rollers 1a through 1d is set to suppress ~~which~~ the processing quality deterioration due to the wrinkle generation ~~of~~ in

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Serial No. 10/067,294
Docket No: Q68446

the sheet A-~~is not accompanied, is respectively set,~~ and corresponding to that, those arrangements and intervals between the heating rollers are respectively set.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18 as follows:

However, when each of rotating body pairs is arranged in this manner, there is sometimes a case where the processing quality deterioration becomes conspicuous depending on the performance of the sheet because the conveying behavior of the leading edge portion of the sheet is a little different from that of the subsequent portion, and the heat developing condition is a little different. The conveying behavior whose heat developing condition is a little different is, specifically speaking, for example, the sheet leading edge conveying behavior between the rotating body pairs c and d in Fig. 1 is as follows: after the leading edge is brought into contact with the point D on the heating roller 1d, it advances to the nip portion sliding on the circumference of the heating roller 1d. When the leading edge is brought into contact with the point D and advances slidingly to the nipping point, the behavior of the sheet in the vicinity of the back rotating body pair c is as follows: a portion in contact with the circumference of the rubber roller 2c becomes large. That is, the leading edge portion of the sheet from the portion nipped by the rotating body pair to the portion nipped by the back rotating body pair is a few little different from the subsequent sheet in the demand and supply of the heat energy.

Please amend the second full paragraph of page 22 as follows:

Each heating roller 1a through 1d is composed of a wall-thick metallic pipe, and a heat source section arranged at the axial center of the metallic pipe, and a plurality of members whose

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Serial No. 10/067,294

Docket No: Q68446

heat conductivity is not smaller than that of the metallic pipe are buried at an equal interval in the peripheral direction of the wall-thick portion of the metallic pipe.